

**Lt. William Conway Graduates from Missile School**

Second Lieutenant William Allen Conway, husband of the former Barbara Joyce Northcutt, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Northcutt, 2600 Cabrillo ave, has graduated the U.S. Army Ordnance Guided Missile School in Huntsville, Ala.

Lt. Conway attended the Ordnance Associate Guided Missile Company Grade Officers Course which trains commissioned officers in the characteristics, capabilities, and limitations of a field artillery guided missile system and associated equipment.

The course, one of 23 taught here at the Army's oldest service school devoted exclusively to guided missile training, supplies a working knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of company grade officers in units engaged in support of field artillery guided missile units.

Lt. Conway is a graduate of Montana State College, Bozeman, Montana, from which he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

**WORDS THAT PAY:** Torrance Press Classified ads! To rent, sell, buy, hire, recover a lost article, dial FA 8-2345.



RESCUE DRILL is carried out by the Torrance Fire Department on the grounds of the National Supply Co. The truck above, with Fireman Atkinson in the basket, is being used to demonstrate its effective method of rescuing an

injured person from a roof. The visiting firm were checking to make sure their large equipment could be maneuvered over the driveways of the plant in case on an emergency.

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**Tax Inquiry Sets Need For Consolidation**

By Senator Richard Richards

The first hearing by our Senate Interim Committee on Metropolitan Areas gave us a good start in getting at some of the causes behind the present crisis in local property taxes.

While this was only a beginning, we did come up with some information that laid down a good base for further inquiry and for ultimate action.

Virtually all witnesses representing local agencies of government agreed that there was need for improvement in our present system, that overlapping and inefficiency do exist in varying degrees, and that ultimate tax savings can be accomplished in a variety of ways.

As to the immediate issue of taxes, the hearing left me with the clear impression that there is considerable variance between the methods used by the Los Angeles City Council and the County Board of Supervisors in relation, first, to the setting of the budget; second, to the setting of the tax rate; and third,

to the application of the assessment rate.

It would appear that there is good reason for bringing these three actions closer together in point of time, in the interest of clarifying confusion that now exists in the minds of most taxpayers.

**TIME LAG**

For example, at present the Los Angeles City budget is established in July, when a tentative tax rate is arrived at by "guesstimate," and not until August is the assessment rate established, after which the tax rate is finally determined and usually changed.

As a possible corrective to this procedure, our committee stressed a proposal that the new assessment rate be clearly before both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors as to the relationship of each body

with the Assessor's office, between which no official liaison now exists.

A closer relationship would appear to be desirable, so that tax answers can be readily available and so that responsibility can be readily fixed by the public.

In any case, the need for greater efficiency and for consolidation of many city-county functions was not denied by any witness, and it was brought out that considerable thought is being given to this problem on both the city and county levels.

Problems of consolidation will without doubt prove difficult of solution, but the direction we must take has been made clear, and the modernization of our tax machinery, along with many other functions of local government, must be achieved in spite of these difficulties.

**Annual Dividends To Be Paid GI's**

Regular annual dividends of \$262,000,000 will be paid to 5,300,000 World War I and II GI insurance policyholders next year, Veterans Administration announced today.

The dividends will be paid as near as possible to the anniversary date of each policy during calendar year 1958. For example, if a policy was issued June 1, the anniversary date will be June 1, 1958.

The dividend declarations do not include the nonparticipating post-Korea type of GI insurance since the law makes no provision for dividend payments on those policies.

World War I and II policyholders who will share in the dividends are requested not to inquire in advance about payments so as not to delay the processing time.

The two dividend declarations are:

1. National Service Life Insurance (NSLI), which originated in World War I, \$240,000,000 payable to approximately 5,000,000 policyholders.
  2. U. S. Government Life Insurance (USGLI), which originated in World War I, \$22,000,000 payable to approximately 300,000 policyholders.
- Dividends will be paid to both term and permanent plan policyholders.

**Arthritis Is Big Cause of Absenteeism**

Arthritis and rheumatism lead all other diseases as the greatest cause of industrial absenteeism, 43 per cent more than common cold and 81 per cent more than accidents, it was revealed this week by the Southern California Chapter of the Arthritis and Rheumatism Foundation.

The loss of approximately 80 million work days each year in the United States is attributed to disability from arthritis and rheumatism. This is the same as if 320,000 persons were rendered totally unemployed each year.

People with rheumatic diseases lose an average of 15 work days each year because of their ailment.

The Southern California Chapter says that an estimated 710,000 factory workers, or about 17 per cent of all the factory workers in the United States suffer from some form of arthritis and rheumatism. Closely behind are the nation's craftsmen and foremen, 538,000 or 13 per cent of all such workers are affected.

The exact reason for this is not known. However, the Southern California Chapter said that medical records indicate that those who incur certain physical stresses in the course of their work may be more prone to the disease.

To lessen a worker's risk of incurring this disease, the Arthritis Foundation advises:

Get enough rest. Stop for breathers during the day. Warm up with simple exercises before a heavy day's work. Try not to worry and have a regular medical checkup.



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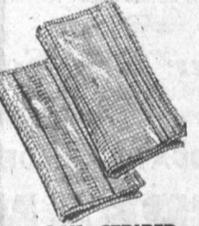
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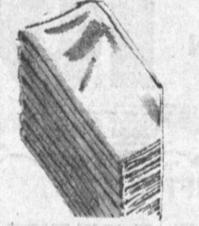
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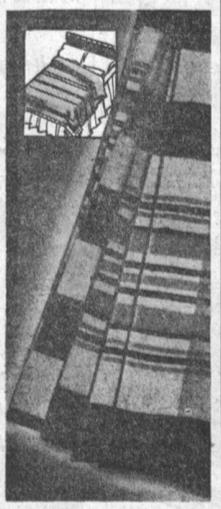
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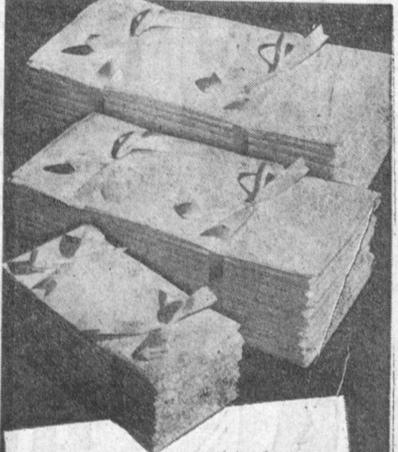
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